

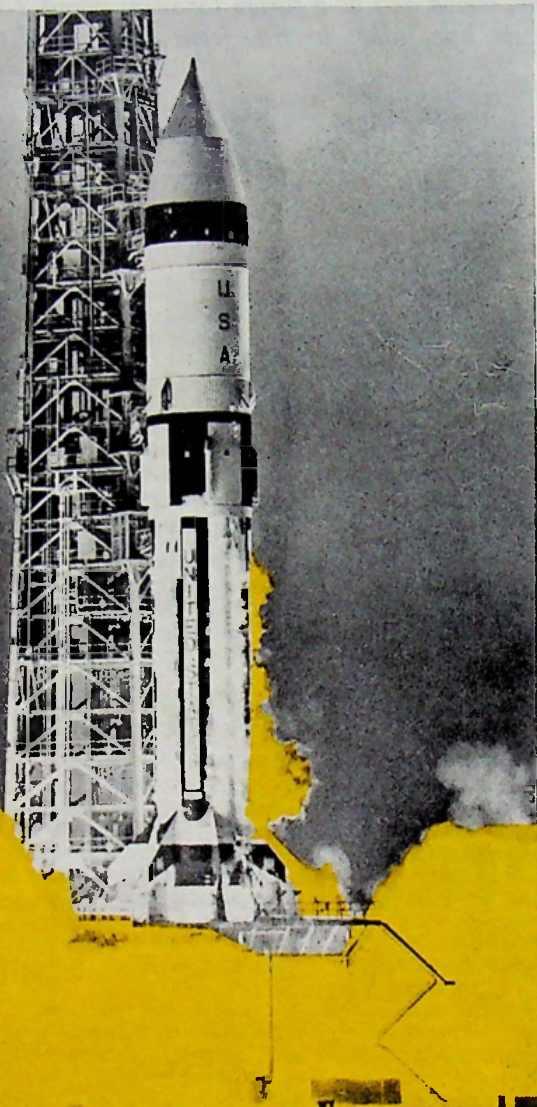
# point three



JULY 1969

one shilling

POINT THREE is the  
monthly magazine  
of Toc H



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*Toc H members accept a four-fold commitment: 1. to build friendships across the barriers that divide man from man; 2. to give personal service; 3. to find their own convictions while always being willing to listen to the views of others; 4. to work for the building of that better world which has been called the Kingdom of God. This magazine, which acts as a forum for ideas about Toc H and about the world in which we live, takes its title from the third of these Four Points—to think fairly.*

July 1969

**On the Cover—**

Modern communication methods have made our cover picture into a rather ordinary affair, and we are inclined to under-estimate man's probe for unknown worlds. "Modern parables", on page 122, suggests that science fiction writers are also under-estimated.

*Photo: American Information Service.*

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Letters and articles are welcomed but the opinions expressed therein are not  
necessarily those of the Toc H Movement



## The so-called "permissive society"

We are constantly being told that this is an age of moral laxity, of decadence unparalleled since the declining years of the Roman Empire. The young suffer from "a lack of moral fibre" and the old from a spineless failure to assert their authority. Almost every aspect of today's society is condemned by the sweeping use of that emotive word "permissive".

These condemnations are hard to refute simply because of their inclusiveness and lack of precision. No one would deny that there are aspects of modern society which deserve condemnation. On the other hand, many of the reforms which come within the blanket criticism implied by the phrase "the permissive society" can be defended, and were in fact advocated, on moral grounds. Instead of specific arguments on specific issues, however, we get vague phrases about the pendulum having swung too far and about the need for a return to the old virtues. "Fings ain't what they used t'be" is the sad refrain and it's hard to tell whether those who talk in this way are still pining for the loss of the Empire or are simply lamenting their lost youth.

Is the social legislation passed in recent years really a sign of moral decay, or, as I believe, of moral advance? I believe that the reforms in the law on homosexuality are justifiable on moral grounds alone. I believe that the reforms in the divorce law at present before Parliament are justifiable on moral grounds alone. I believe that the moves, such as they are, towards the more humane treatment of offenders have not gone nearly far enough. And yet all these reforms are quoted as examples of our decline from the paths of virtue into decadence and moral decay.

The fact of the matter, of course, is that the so-called "new morality" is not new at all. It is at least as old as the New Testament. It is strange that our modern puritans are so concerned about the restoration of the moral law, of codes of ethics, when the theme that

runs continuously through the letters of St. Paul is that Christians are no longer subject to the Law but have entered into the freedom of sons of God. For St. Paul, as for the "new moralists", the guiding ethical principle was not a moral code but the rule of love. And this is not, as is sometimes implied, a soft option. The rule of love is more flexible than, but at least as demanding as, the Mosaic Law.

Is the "younger generation" really amoral, interested only in drugs and sex? Once again such blanket condemnations tend to force one into the position either of accepting the charge or of trying to defend every action of every young person, which is manifestly absurd. The fact remains, however, that most young people are more concerned about the problems of the world around them than any previous generation has been. They have a global outlook, and this is quite new. Even ten years ago students were for the most part blissfully unaware of social issues. They lived in an ivory tower and were happy to do so. This is true no longer.

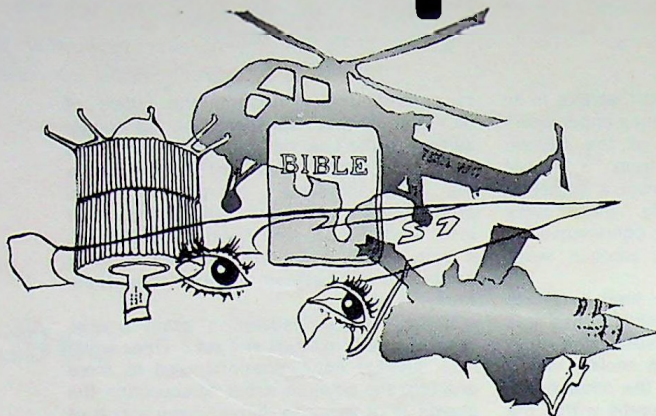
This, in turn, has brought a growing realisation that the stress on individual morality, in particular sexual morality, has led to a serious imbalance. The real immoralities in our society, it is argued, are not any changes that may have taken place in our sexual ethics; they are the thousands of people living in over-crowded and insanitary conditions in our slums; they are the growing gulf between the rich and poor nations of the world; they are the cancer of racism and the obscenity of war. You may agree or disagree with this line of argument but you can hardly describe it as moral decadence.

There is plenty of room for logical argument on specific issues but to condemn the whole of modern society with an emotional generalisation is not to think fairly—or, indeed, to think at all. The use of the phrase "the permissive society" has increased, is increasing and ought to be diminished.

K.P.B.

LEONARD RIVETT, a former staff Padre in Yorkshire, is a science fiction addict. He believes that the best science fiction writers give us valuable insights into the present as well as into the future.

# modern parables



Science fiction for most people means horror comics, mad scientists, space fantasies and bug-eyed monsters. This is because most science fiction stories originally appeared in lurid-covered pulp magazines—and many still do. The covers of paper-back books are designed to sell the book and are very often misleading, such as strip-tease pictures to catch the eye (of men anyway!) which bear little or no relation to the contents of the book. Science fiction magazines and paper-back books seem to do the opposite, to discourage a serious reader by the rather horrific exterior.

This is a great pity since SF is a literature of ideas, and is concerned with the impact of scientific discoveries and technology upon mankind. It rests upon conceivable developments of science and so can prepare us to meet the future. SF is not confined to the physical sciences nor to astronautics (many people equate science fiction with space fiction) but includes anthropology, admass, archaeology, biology, ecology, ethology, ethics, genetics, psychology, para-psychology (ESP), politics, sociology, semantics and theology.

With the recent series of SF plays on BBC 2, and the articles and letters in the *Radio Times*, many people are coming to realise that science fiction is not only "respectable" and exciting, but is serious and stimulating. I am an unashamed SF addict and have been for several years. In actual fact

Toc H is responsible. During the "Keynote" operation in 1959/60 I went along to the library and asked the Readers' Assistant what teenagers were reading—and she introduced me to my first (apart from boyhood H. G. Wells) science fiction authors.

Writers of modern science fiction are the prophets and the myth-makers of today. The word prophecy is usually used as if it meant predictive. Many of the predictions of writers of SF have come true, e.g. Jules Verne—helicopter, guided missile, artificial satellite, rockets; H. G. Wells—atom bomb, poison gas, heat rays, mechanised warfare; Hugo Gernsback (the founder of modern SF)—3D colour TV, blood transfusion, "deep freeze" surgery; A. C. Clarke—telstar and TV Satellite. "Towards Tomorrow", the BBC TV programme on March 25, 1969, examined the predictions of SF writers and compared them with the professional forecasters of the "Think Tanks". Science fiction is concerned with the future, with visualising alternative future worlds, and so can help mankind to make the right choices.

Like any contemporary literature SF reflects the religious ideas and aspirations of today. I believe that it does more and that some writers are prophets in the real sense of the word, men with a message from God. They are concerned with Truth, which is a religious quest, and many of them are searching after

drawing by  
malcolm king



a theology-knowledge of God. Not only are readers getting far more religion than they realise, but more too than the writers themselves realise. SF authors are the myth-makers of today. The film *2001—A Space Odyssey* is a myth. A. C. Clarke said that he and Stanley Kubrick set out with the deliberate intention of creating a myth and that this accounts for the powerful responses it has evoked from audiences and reviewers. (See *Cosmos No. 1*, published by Walter Gillings, 115 Wanstead Park Road, Ilford.) "We were dealing with the mystery of the universe, and with powers and forces greater than man's comprehension." Vernon Sproston (in *New Christian* August, 22, 1968) wrote "The film has mythical, if not religious overtones . . . The myth-maker is a bit like a prophet. He speaks a greater truth than he knows in his juxtaposition of images and symbols". A myth is NOT a false and unworthy belief but a deep underlying truth and was defined by C. S. Lewis as "a real though unfocussed gleam of divine truth falling on human imagination".

It is surprising how often writers of SF use a priest as the hero, or one character, in a story. This, of course, of itself does not mean that the story is religious but the author is not likely to do this unless his theme is a religious one. In *The Star* A. C. Clarke brilliantly poses the question of faith in a scientific age and the problem of innocent suffering. The story will be found in a number of anthologies, including *The Hugo Winners* (Penguin).

Several writers are concerned with Christian missionary work amongst aliens on other planets. Harry Harrison in *The Streets of Ashkelon* (published in *Two Tales and Eight Tomorrows*, Gollancz, 1965) has a twist-ending when the aliens crucify the missionary and expect him to rise from the dead. When this story was first published in *New Worlds Science Fiction* in 1962 it was rightly labelled "Theology". Apparently the story was too strong for the American SF magazines, but when it appeared later in translation the French Catholic Press approved of it. *Unhuman Sacrifice*, by Katherine MacLean, is reminiscent of 19th Century missionary expansion in Africa and tells of interference for the aliens' "own good" by a missionary, who could not begin to understand the pattern of life on a new planet. In *The Fire Balloons* by Ray Bradbury (published in *The Silver Locusts*, Rupert Hart Davis, 1965) the missionaries meet the original inhabitants of Mars, who are complete spiritual beings in no need of salvation. Bradbury also deals with religious symbolism in the story. Philip José Farmer in *Father* (published in "Strange Relations", Gollancz, 1964) develops the idea of fatherhood pantheistically and ends up with anti-Christ.

Other writers explore the implications of extra-terrestrial life, which a few theologians are now beginning to face. *Balaam* by Anthony Boucher (in *Best SF 4*, Faber, 1961) is the story of Balaam and his ass from Numbers, chapter 22, in the setting of another planet and poses the question "What is man?". Robert Presslie in *Another Word for Man* (*Out of this World 2*, Blackie) asks the same question when an alien visits earth and gives his life to save a village priest. E. F. Russell, a well known SF author, wrote, "The true test of the civilised mind is that it should be able to weigh spiritual values without including the package".

Love as the greatest force in the universe is the theme of *Invasion of the Planet of Love* by G. P. Elliot (published in *Best F & SF 9th Series*, Gollancz) *Invaded by Love* by Thomas M. Disch (*New Worlds*, No. 166, September, 1966) and *Stranger Station* by Damon Knight (in *Spectrum 1V*, Gollancz). In the first an exploration team on a new planet can't stand the love they are met with; in the second, earth is conquered by love, brought by aliens, and in the last an astronaut meets love with hate because he is afraid of its power. These are all religious themes, as are the "saviour" figure stories and those that deal with mankind fighting evil power.

Science fiction provides many new parables on religious themes. I believe that God is speaking to us today through some of these writers as He did through the prophets in the past. We ought to take notice of what they are saying.



# welcome point

The following Branches elected new members during May:

4—Anstey (W.A.), Bourne End (W.A.), Corsham (W.A.), Rhyl (W.A.), Sleaford (W.A.).

3—Central, Fleet (W.A.).

2—Aclet (Joint), Bargoed (W.A.), Bingham, Bourne End, Carlisle, Chingford (Joint), Holme Valley (W.A.), Largs, Milford-on-Sea (W.A.), Portmadoc, Surrey, S. & W. London Area, Thornaby (Joint), Wellington (W.A.), Wembly & Preston, Wolverhampton (W.A.).

1—Abertillery, Aldwick (Joint), Barkingside, Broughty Ferry, Budleigh Salterton (W.A.), Camberwell & Dulwich, Catterick Village, Chiseldon, Criccieth, Crieff, Durham Down, East Midlands Area, Elmstead (W.A.), Fareham (W.A.), Herne Bay, Kennington (London), Kirkby (W.A.), Leominster (W.A.), Leighton Buzzard (W.A.), Moseley (Joint), Norton-on-Tees, Oswestry (W.A.), Packington, Pinhow (W.A.), Pwllheli (W.A.), Rayleigh (W.A.), Redcar (W.A.), St. Austell (W.A.), Saughall, Seaford, Shrewsbury (W.A.), Uckfield, Watford (W.A.), Welling (W.A.), Wellingborough, West Central (W.A.), Weybridge (W.A.), Wimbledon (W.A.).

94 new members were elected during May, to whom we extend a warm welcome.

## IONA WEEK 1969

September 13-20. The response to this has been very disappointing and those who have been to Iona in previous years should no longer feel under any obligation to hold back and make room for newcomers. If more applications are not received by the end of July we shall reluctantly be forced to cancel the Week. Applications to: Mrs. D. McKinna, 35 Plewlands Avenue, Edinburgh 10.

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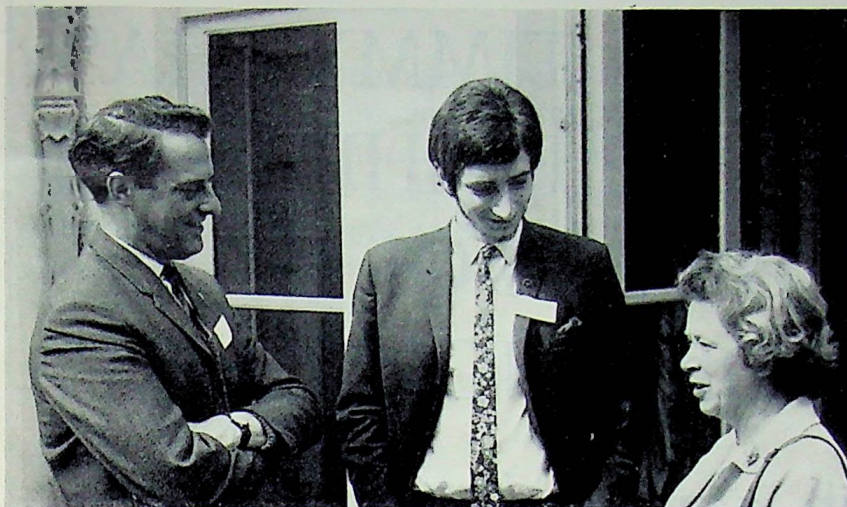
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## personality point



Mike Duff, centre, talks over a Central Council topic with Peter East, Warden, 42 Trinity Square, and Elsa Perrin, S.E. Regional staff.

*Photo: Skegg Blanchard.*

**Miss Jo. Banham** left the General Secretary's department on June 6 following her marriage to Mr. Malcolm Worman and is now living in Southend-on-Sea.

### MIKE DUFF

In the short span of 21 years, Mike Duff, the new Warden of Mark II, Westminster, has worked for the Ministry of Defence, the World Council of Churches in Switzerland, joined the 21st S.A.S. Regt. (T.A.), pursued his hobbies of fishing, weightlifting and football, played in a pop group called the "Basin Street Blues Breakers" which very nearly landed him a recording contract with EMI records, acted as deputy Warden at Mark III, travelled with Toc H projects parties and studied for a commission in the Army. He became the Warden at Mark II last September and has already formed a new Toc H group in Pimlico which encourages regular attendances from members living as far away as Putney and Wimbledon.

Mike was born in Hackney and attended the Parmiters Grammar School until he was 17. Looking a bit like "Captain Ahab", with a sketchy chin-hugging beard, his 6ft. plus frame and quiet manner hide a lively personality and invigorating capacity for work. We welcome him to the staff.

There's something else you should know—in his spare time he climbs mountains!

### MICHAEL BULLOCK

Among several new Central Executive members elected at Swanwick in April was Michael Bullock. He has been a member since 1961, holding office at Branch, District, Area and now national level. He is Walsall Branch chairman and has served on the Area Joint Advisory Team and as a Central Councillor.

Mike is 29 years old, married with two young children. He was educated at Oakham School and was commissioned into the Royal Corps of Signals during his call-up period. He earns his living in what seems a highly complicated manner by acting as liaison officer for his Bank's computer project in the Midlands.

In his spare time he likes to play golf and—wait for it—climbs mountains. "My life's ambition is to climb in the Himalayas," he told us. Maybe he should get together with Mike Duff!

### What a Bargain!

Seen on a Jumble Sale Notice:

"A chance to be rid of anything you don't want, yet too good to throw away. Bring your husband."



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*in a wheelchair*

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# IS TOC H DEAD?

As a contribution to the present debate about the future of the Movement we are printing two controversial articles by SIMON ALLARD. Whether or not one agrees with him we believe that he raises issues which urgently need to be discussed. In this month's article Simon presents his diagnosis of our ills; next month he will suggest how these ills may be cured.

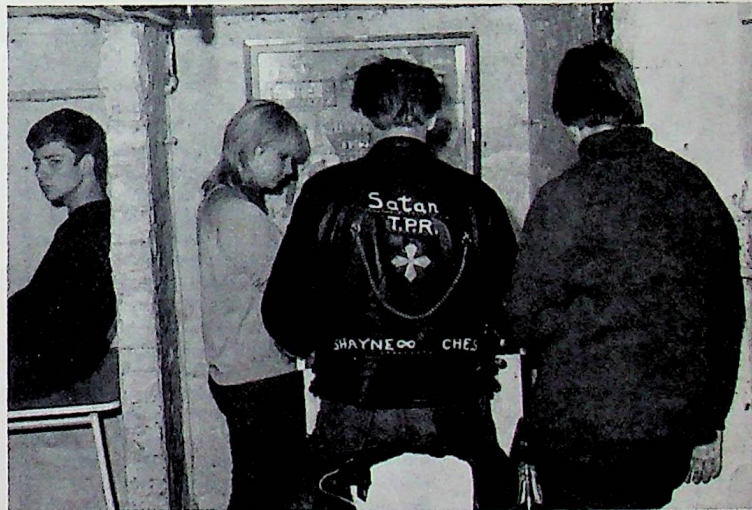
There is little evidence to suggest that Toc H knows what it is, let alone where it is going. Sometimes one could be forgiven for believing that Toc H exists primarily to provide its members with an opportunity for discussing the nature of the beast to which they belong. Like lawyers, the staff are paid to interpret their own and other people's jargon. Like lawyers, the staff are woefully divided about the nature of Toc H. The membership is by no means alone in its confusion. When all else fails, our failure to understand the nature of Toc H, and, by implication, its role at the present time, is rationalised. We claim that the fact that Toc H means something different to everybody is a sign of its vitality—not its lack of cohesion and purpose. This really is nonsense.

Our ideals are not unique. The only justification for our separate existence is that we are a frontier Movement. This means that we are the shock troops. It means that we are prepared to live dangerously, take risks and be mobile. It means that we are a Movement, not an institution; that we pioneer and hand on to others, and that we know where the frontiers are and operate in that field. I consider that we have been resting a very long way behind the front line for a very long time, and every year the battle is taken on even further by others. Indeed, Toc H is so far behind the front line that many people believe that it can't even hear the noise, and certainly doesn't know what the issues are.

What is the battle about? What are the issues? Where is the frontier? We must know if we expect others to join us. Are we fighting for the oppressed minorities, to revitalise the deprived centres of our large cities or to set up the kingdom of God? Few people outside the Movement fail to be struck by the yawning creditability gap. In fact we are doing nothing so unladylike or ungentelemanly as fighting for anything. We spend most of our time sitting

If you think your teenagers are complicated, visit the Coal 'ole at Croydon Centre. You will find deafening noise, smoke, pin-tables, sometimes violence and problems—lots of people with problems.

*Photo: Bob Broeder.*



on our bottoms, and occasionally pay lip service to all three issues.

In the early days we were not so woolly. We stood for something. If people did not know before, they certainly knew after they had been to a Toc H meeting that we stood foursquare against snobbery. This meant that the outright snob excluded himself: but it also meant that the person who had never previously experienced a friendship across the class barriers could test Toc H's claim for himself as someone honestly seeking the truth. Of course there were exceptions, and there were people who compartmentalised their lives, behaving in one way at Branch meetings and quite another during the rest of the week. Nonetheless we do seem to have been much clearer about what we stood for and where we were going 40 years ago than we are today.

### The golden years

Even if we have been misled by the legend of the golden years, it is not very important. What is clear is that today Toc H is trying to be Everyman's Club, and largely failing to be anybody's club. It has been said that if you fall for everything, you stand for nothing. We are prepared to give membership to racialsists on the basis that one cannot influence by excluding. Having clasped this particular asp to our declining bosom, we fail to provide any confrontation. This is not thinking fairly. This is appeasement. This is panic. This is throwing over one of the fundamental principles on which Toc H is based—the concept that we are all equal in the eyes of God. We are all or none of us the children of God.

One of the things that Toc H is apparently clear on is the idea that Toc H is a Christian Movement. Indeed, apart from being educationally subnormal, one of the few ways of ensuring that you are not asked to be a member of Toc H is to profess positive atheism. The trouble with Christianity is that it is incredibly difficult to define. It can be defined in terms of a dogma, a body of faith in which people can profess belief. This is simple, if not simplistic, and the birth of Toc H was itself a reaction to it. Alternatively it can be defined in terms of a way of life. Toc H tends to claim the second, and judge by the first. If you are an agnostic, it is assumed that you will be prepared to test the psychological truths of Christ's teaching. If you are a Buddhist or a Jew, it is assumed that you are quite incapable.

What is our position? The communist party is made up of communists. Some may be more dedicated than others, but by and large we have certain expectations about their attitude and values. We claim to be a Christian Movement. What do we mean by it? Are all our members Christian? Well, they don't all

go to Church; but they all practice a Christian way of life. What do we mean by a Christian way of life? Do we mean something for which we can find evidence in the gospels, or the rather emasculated, relatively decent, comparatively honest way of life as practised by 90% of the community? Increasingly Toc H is a reflection of society rather than a challenge to it. Toc H is a minority Movement not because it demands too much, but because it demands too little.

Toc H is much more concerned about being comprehensive than about being principled. It reminds me of a society that died the death before it ever started. It was called *Televisions Comprehensive*. It was open to anyone possessing a television, who believed that television was here to stay, that it was more good than bad, and was prepared to test the claim that it was more likely to bring people together than to separate them. Obviously the membership was divided about the kind of programmes they enjoyed most: but nobody was allowed to bring any pressure which might upset the status quo, exclude or irritate any section of the movement or society. The perceptive might well ask what this society ever did. There is only one thing that such a society can do and that is agonise about its own nature and membership requirements, such as whether membership is open to somebody with a television, which he never watches.

### Flabby cabbages

It is in just such a way that Toc H has castrated itself. Toc H is hoist with its own petard—Everyman's Club. Unfortunately we are so open ended that people are falling out both ends. People with definite principles and objectives are opting out of Toc H in favour of more congenial vehicles in which they can express themselves more fully. Inevitably, the vicious circle operating, we grow more middle aged, more middle class and more middle of the road. One of the most depressing features of our present malaise is the way in which the industrial, commercial and professional kings still in the membership become like flabby cabbages once they are at a District Team meeting. It suggests that Toc H is the worst advertisement for its own technique.

Has Toc H got a future? It has enough money, if not membership, to exist for decades. In its present form, Toc H is the nearest thing to dead that I can conceive; but there still is a place for a frontier Movement, with a clearly defined radical position, and the energy to pursue its objectives. If Toc H is to be that Movement, the necessary heart transplant could not be more urgent.





# helping gypsies to settle

**A resolution at this year's Central Council called on Toc H to urge all local authorities to provide proper sites for gypsies. Would gypsies use such sites if they were provided? The experience of the Bromsgrove Rural District Council suggests that they would. DAVID WAKEFIELD, Chairman of the South Worcestershire District Team, reports.**

One Midland local authority which already has a permanent site for gypsies is the Rural District Council of Bromsgrove in Worcestershire.

During the early 1960's, the Council had difficulty with a number of gypsy families who lived for most of the year in the district, leaving

only for seasonal occupation in the south of the County. Their primary occupation was scrap metal dealing, and the proximity of Birmingham (12 miles to the City centre) made the rural area of North Worcestershire an ideal base.

A survey was carried out to ascertain how many families were semi-permanent and how many of these would use a proper site if provided. The result of this survey showed that 12 families were prepared to co-operate. The Council owned a piece of land which was not at that time in use and which was isolated from dwellings, yet with essential services readily available and close to a centre of population with shops, schools etc. This land was levelled, fenced and laid out for 12 caravans. Two water points were provided, a toilet block, shed to each site, and a parking area for lorries with a scrap sorting area adjoining. The gypsies were invited on to the site and they commenced occupation in June 1964. Since that date electricity has been laid on to each caravan, the site has been asphalted and improved toilet facilities have been provided. The total cost was approximately £4,000.

The original rents in 1964 were 15s. per week, but since the improvements they have been increased to £1 8s. 9d. per week plus 5s. per week for parking a lorry. If the gypsies wish to leave the site to do seasonal work and want to return, a 10s. per week site reservation fee is charged.

Of the present occupiers, 10 are either the original tenants or their families. Some of the children are regularly attending the local schools.

During the five years that the site has been occupied, difficulties have arisen, but in the main these have been overcome. Supervision of the site has been difficult, as the Council Offices are in Bromsgrove, which is over 11 miles away. In the early days this resulted in quite a bit of damage to equipment on the site but when it was explained that damage had to be paid for by higher rents the tenants began to accept some individual responsibility. The collection of rents has also proved difficult in certain cases, but a weekly collection instead of the usual fortnightly collection again improved matters.

The site is easier to manage now and it is believed that one of the main reasons is that the gypsies have now accepted more responsibility and are reasonably settled members of the community. This site is only a small contribution to the solution of a large problem, but without compulsion the Rural District Council of Bromsgrove has provided a "home" which by its continued usage was obviously needed and at the same time solved one of its own continuing problems of the early 1960's.

**“are we prepared to devote more of our resources to the elimination not only of physical slums but of the slums of the spirit?” asks Ken Prideaux-Brune**



Photo: Nat. Soc. Clean Air

**our degraded**



If we are really concerned about people in anything more than a purely materialistic sense we must surely be concerned about the quality of life, we must surely be concerned not only about economic poverty but about the poverty of the environment in which we live. Not the least of the crises which face us today is the degradation of the environment—a degradation which is widespread but quite unnecessary. We have the means to improve the quality of the environment, if only we have the will.

The creeping advance of bricks and mortar, eating up the countryside: caravans and litter, those twin centrepieces of the modern English seascape: acres of squalid slums: depressing islands of waste and barren ground in all our industrial cities: derelict mine workings: a grimy and polluted atmosphere—these are just some of the unnecessary horrors that will remain with us until we care enough to do something about them.

Improving the environment involves more than the mere conservation of nature—indeed the use of the word conservation in this context is unfortunate. It implies something static, it implies putting back the clock—a form of escapism that is always doomed to failure. What is needed is something a great deal more creative. Instead of pining for a mythical past, we must attempt to create a new and healthier environment for the future.

### Comprehensive planning

Our concern must be with the total environment. It is not just a question of preserving a few corners of this cramped island in their "natural state". There is, incidentally, no such thing as a "natural state". Nature is constantly changing. Even the most apparently natural landscapes are the results of the reaction to man's activity over the centuries.

The environment must be treated as a whole. We are concerned with the creation of a better environment for the whole population, not just with the provision of fenced off enclaves for nature lovers. Town and country are inter-dependent and of equal importance in this context. No real improvements will be

made until this is realised and the planning of the environment becomes a great deal more comprehensive.

### Derelict land

Land is the most important, and at the same time the scarcest, of our natural resources. As the population increases the pressures will inevitably become more intense and the need for a far-sighted policy for dealing with competing claims will become more urgent. Certain basic principles would seem to be clear. A growing population means, inevitably, that the proportion of urban land will have to grow but to allow new developments to take place on top quality agricultural land is surely wasteful and unnecessary. Especially when one realises that, according to an estimate made by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government in 1964, there are no less than 99,000 acres of derelict land in England and Wales. These wastelands consist of coal tips and disused quarries, of all the detritus of an industrial civilisation. To reclaim these derelict acres will inevitably be expensive, but in many cases the increased value of the land would cover the cost. And in any event to waste this space and to allow these eyesores to continue to ruin our environment is surely a false economy.

It is not only industry and agriculture and housing that are competing for land. Land is also needed for recreation and leisure pursuits. The growth of leisure, coupled with the rapid increase in the number of motor cars, leads to increasing pressure on sports facilities of all kinds and on areas of natural beauty. As Robert Arvill puts it, in his *Pelican Man and Environment*, "The point of the leisure boom is that a mass of people cannot enjoy, in the same places and at the same time, the pleasures that once a few enjoyed. As demand increases, so must planning and consideration for others."

The careful husbanding of our diminishing land resources is clearly vital. Finding methods to control air pollution is no less vital. Air filled with sulphur dioxide from chemical plants and power stations, with smoke and grit from domestic fires and with carbon monoxide from car exhausts is not merely unpleasant; it

# environment



Dust blowing off a colliery spoilheap in Northumberland.

Photo: Nat. Soc. Clean Air

is positively dangerous. Bronchitis, known on the continent as the "English disease", kills five times as many people as are killed in road accidents. A great deal has been done in a number of places to deal with the problem but much more could be done. To effect real improvements is inevitably expensive. How much are we prepared to pay to improve our environment?

Watching the rain beating against the windows it is difficult to imagine that there could ever be a water shortage in Britain. But in fact we shall only be able to ensure sufficient supplies to meet the growing needs of both industry and the domestic consumer by making the fullest possible use of the resources we have. The problem is to ensure that water is available where and when it's needed. And recent years have seen a growing realisation of the recreational facilities offered by our lakes and rivers.

Land, air and water. These are our basic resources and the use of all of them needs careful planning, particularly in view of the rapid growth of population. To ensure a reasonable balance between the competing claims on our scarce resources is too serious a matter to be left to chance.

However, the skill of the planners will not, of itself, be enough. If the improvement in our environment is to be continued and accelerated the public at large will need to be very much aware of the issues involved. In this Toc H Branches could, and I believe should, play an important role. One possible starting point would be to include in your Branch programme

the discussion of (in the words of Robert Arvill, in the book *Man and Environment* quoted earlier in this article) "The quality of your environment, in particular the design and condition of its buildings, the pollution of its land and water, the availability of open spaces, environmental standards and measures to improve your surroundings, such as tree preservation and planting schemes, and the management of local commons." Only an alert and concerned public opinion can ensure that the spending of money on the improvement of the environment will get the priority it deserves.

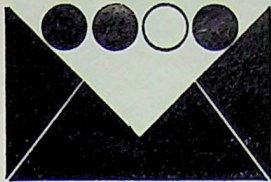
The problem is a complex one, but the fundamental issue is simple. Do we really believe that "man cannot live by bread alone", that materialist values are just not good enough? Up and down the country there are housing estates which demonstrate the effect of ignoring environmental factors. These are the estates vividly described by one teenager (quoted in the Albemarle Report on the Youth Service) as "graveyards with lights". They demonstrate that decent housing and television are not in themselves enough to provide the background for a satisfying life. The environment matters, and it matters to all of us. Are we prepared to devote some of our resources to the elimination, not only of physical slums but of the slums of the spirit? Are we prepared to forego some of our "private affluence" in order to do away with "public squalor"? Do we care about the quality of life, and are we prepared to meet the cost of that caring?

## NONE OF US IS PERFECT

We have a certain sympathetic feeling for the editor of a journal, whose anonymity we shall respect, who produced this double-destructive apology. "We very much regret that in last month's issue we described Miss Molly Timms as being the daughter of a defective in the local Police Force. What we should have said, of course, is that she is the daughter of a detective in the local Police Force."

We reveal this tragedy in case it happens to us next month!





## The symbol

How refreshing to see the cover of the May issue of *Point Three* cheerfully and unmistakably announcing to the world that it is a Toc H magazine. I think the new symbol delightful in every way and I hope it will be used extensively.

In regard to the quotation in Huw Gibbs' article, "as dim as a Toc H lamp", may I say that I have always countered this sly gibe with a slight misquotation, "Not all the darkness in the world can extinguish the light of one small lamp". "They" find that quite unanswerable!

Irene Lockwood

Leicester

Having spoken to members of both sexes in the many Branches in my Joint District I find that the new symbol is not at all popular; in fact most members definitely object to it. In my own view it looks like a cross between the British Rail Inter-City Travel symbol, and the sign of Global Tours. And why Toc H needs to re-identify itself at this stage in its history is not quite clear—our Lamp means something to us, and also to many non-members. What matter if other organisations have now adopted this same symbol: this is a compliment and means it was good enough to copy.

When we are inundated with papers on matters with which most of us are not deeply concerned, may one ask why ordinary members were not consulted about something as vital as substituting this onion-like object for our Lamp?

Margaret B. Wollacott Crediton, Devon

## Include me out!

The May *Viewpoint* includes these words: "It will be by its response to the reality of starvation, and by that alone, that the Church will ultimately be judged". That is to say, by the full application of the words in St. Matthew 25, v. 35: "For I was an hungered, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink". I am

forcibly reminded of some remarks by Herbert Leggate at a meeting in Northampton some 20 years ago, at a time when rationing was still in force, and when there was a growing demand in this country for the end of all controls and rationing. In Herbert's view the post-war poverty and hunger of the under-developed peoples in the world could be solved only by continuing rationing by *all* the "have" nations, until such time as the food shortages of the "have not" peoples had been met.

In the climate of this country's feelings in the immediate post-war years Herbert's remarks were neither popular nor welcome—but were they not true?

Tom Orchard

Horsham, Sussex

## Recruitment

Melton Mowbray women's Branch now has 39 members. Four or five years ago there were only about eight. Recruitment has been growing steadily—why? Because those eight worked, with love, for their fellow beings and for Toc H. Their example has been one of courage, an example that new members have been eager to follow. Last month eight new members were initiated; this month five more women are seeking membership.

The reasons why they join are not spectacular. We are asked—"do you think your Toc H will help us to organise a road safety exhibition?"; "will your Toc H arrange a party for the house-bound?"; "arrange a flag day for Muscular Dystrophy"; "could you find someone to sit up with mother for a few nights?"; "will you arrange a rota for visiting hospital patients who have no relatives?"; And so it goes on.

Edith Hammond

Melton Mowbray

## If the women take over . . .

Having taken a census from *Welcome Point* over many months I notice that the increase in membership in the Women's Association far outnumbers the men's. In my view, within a very few years Toc H will be mainly a women's Movement with the men taking a back seat.

What a great pity the women were ever allowed into the Movement. It was founded by that wonderful man Tubby Clayton for men, to be run by men, with some jolly good objects in view. Toc H has in the past been well

run by the men, but oh Lord, if the women take over the helm God help the chaps who think like me, and are the backbone of Toc H. When the women are at the helm you can count me out.

Why don't you put this letter in *Point Three*. It might get some points of view from the chaps? So long as we have all male Branches you'll get my support, but not when we have women at the helm. Until then, good luck and best wishes for the future.

Harold Sherriff

Worthing

## Something to Bite On!

The article "Life Outside the Bars" (April), by the Rev. J. B. Harrison, tempts me once again to stress the opportunities for Toc H in work for homeless young men leaving prison or Borstal. I believe it was once suggested that a Mark be converted to this use. The house started by Springboard at Strood has proved the need here in Kent, and with the help of the Bridgehead Housing Association plans are afoot for another. Toc H could help to start further houses throughout the country.

Once the home is opened the opportunities for service are endless. In addition to committee members and fund raisers there is always scope for the handyman in the house and garden, and for the man with hobbies, and those with the gift of friendship can perhaps make the best contribution of all. As Mr. Harrison explained, the initial cost of a building can be obtained, and an approved house would qualify for a Home Office grant towards running expenses.

Frank Dives

Gravesend

## I can't afford it

In a recent issue you asked members to express their opinion of Toc H. I will explain my position.

I come in the low income bracket, my husband earns £13 a week of which I get £11.10.0 (we have two children). I find that to attend the actual Toc H meetings you have to be a lot better off financially than I am. When I first joined about four years ago I found I could manage the 5s. annual subscription, insurance, 1s. a month for the magazine and 3d. for the usual cuppa. But on top of this, self-assessment envelopes are distributed; our Branch provides monthly



parcels for which donations of groceries are brought to meetings, and at Easter members bring along eggs for distribution to the elderly. You can imagine how embarrassing it is for me not being able to contribute to these projects! There is always something—Sheldon House appeal, and so on.

You might say have a chat with your pilot, but at the moment there is no pilot (I think this is a very important office in any Branch). So I decided to pay my subs., buy my *Point Three* and keep away from the meetings. Of course I still continue my Toc H job of visiting and helping the elderly household. I find this work too rewarding to pack it up.

*Name and address supplied.*

## First RC Padre

In an article in March you state that in accepting an invitation to become Padre of Minster Branch, Fr. levers, as far as you know, is the first Roman Catholic priest to act as Padre of a Toc H Branch. But in 1963/4 a Roman Catholic priest, Fr. Claude, was the Padre of Nchanga Branch (Zambia) and was the most popular Padre Toc H on the "Copperbelt" had ever had. In fact he took a very great interest in everything done by the three Branches in Chingola, whose main project was to dedicate themselves to help all the leper colonies of Northern Rhodesia and Zambia.

In conclusion let me place on record my congratulations on your "new look" magazine, which is attractive in design and has excellent reading.

*James Human*

*Truro, Cornwall*

## "We really must be sensible"

If Coretta King and Colin Morris are fanatics, then all the great reformers, Luther, Wesley, Gandhi, Martin Luther King, the Apostles and Jesus himself must be classed with them: and Tubby. Without "disturbing" influences the Church would have stagnated out of existence.

If the Gospel means what it says, what then? If one really believes and tries to practise the Christian way of life one risks the Supreme Sacrifice—e.g. Gandhi, Martin Luther King. So what! Isn't this part of it? To know His will, revealed in Christ, and to do it fearlessly, reckoning nothing of the world's opinion.

In these affluent days it is the easiest thing in the world to put a coin in a box



This late arrival on the editorial table shows part of the procession of banners at the Llandrindod Wells Investiture Festival held in May. A poem by John Jones (centre front), commemorating the Investiture appears on page 140. *Photo: The Marina Gallery.*

for some charitable cause, but surely a Christian is expected to involve himself. If we wait for Governments to make a significant contribution toward real world peace and justice for all men we wait how long?: until Governments are composed of persons dedicated to the Christian way of life with all it entails, or until the white world becomes in real danger from the have-nots. Meanwhile is it in keeping with the Christian ideology to sit back and do nothing more than put coins in boxes according to "what we reasonably can".

To me the present role of Toc H is not so much to undertake service to the community (just at present there seem to be plenty of "do-gooder" organisations) as to be nuclei of people dedicated to the "experiment of learning to live together". Isn't this the world's greatest need? Isn't this the way Paul spread the Early Church: a cell of dedicated people in each community from which radiated by precept, example and atmosphere the essence of the faith? And was it successful? Oh boy!

Let us be reasonable and take Coretta King and Colin Morris as seriously as we possibly can, and learn from them.

*B. D. Brown*

*Charmouth, Dorset*

Reading this month's editorial left me rather disturbed. You question whether we should take seriously the Bible story (St. Luke 18 v.1-30) when Jesus

tells the rich ruler "to sell all and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in Heaven: and come, follow me."

May I affirm that Our Lord certainly meant what He said, and that we in Toc H and all Christians should be expected to take the Gospel seriously.

The rich man had indeed the opportunity of a life-time literally to follow Jesus as one of his disciples. We are surely meant to understand the distinction between possessions (temporal) and the treasures (spiritual).

If the wealthy nations and people of our world were prepared to accept the meaning of the Gospel by devoting their riches to saving the destitute, its truth would become abundantly clear to all. Our weakness lies in the attitude that "We shall, of course, be giving an extra few bob to Christian Aid this year". Should we not begin by confessing the truth of Our Lord's message for Christians and then seek to implement His word? Our weakness in this chaotic world is no valid reason for denying the truth. The "reasonable" and "sensible" solution to the vexatious problems which face the world today is in our own hands, and if in truth we are with God, then all things are possible. (v.27)

One feels that Coretta King and Colin Morris are in truth inspired by the Holy Spirit: can we be quite certain of our label of "fanatics"?

Can any other Power meet this world's present need?

*Edmund Harrison*

*Bakewell, Derbyshire.*



## newspoint

### Tea with the "travelling man"

Arthur W. Chappell

Clitheroe is a small Branch, with an equally small bank balance. However, this in no way deterred us from devising, and successfully putting the following idea into practice. The project provides a boxed tea for the really deserving people—the house-bound, the bedridden, the seriously incapacitated. In fact all those people who are unable to get out and about; not necessarily elderly people.

Transport, even for those who could be moved from their houses to a central point, presented numerous difficulties. The answer then, was to take their tea to them in their own houses.

Clitheroe delivered 46 teas last year and 56 teas in 1969. The district nurses and doctors' receptionists were only too happy to provide names and addresses of those who would appreciate and deserved a boxed tea.

One week prior to distribution, letters were sent to all intended recipients, telling them of the approximate time we would call. (In view of the fact so many organisations will persist in

choosing Christmas time for their "efforts", we chose the week-end before Easter when things are quiet). On the appointed afternoon all the prepared food is brought to a central point (in our case the Trinity Church kitchen). The teas are then made up as follows:- Cold sliced chicken, stuffing, and salad on a disposable plate, white and brown bread and butter, buttered scone, fancy cake, all in separate cellophane bags. Trifle was served in a carton and finally one tea bag and one serviette. The whole meal is then packed into a plain cake box and addressed. We have found that if the boxes are divided into districts of about a dozen boxes, two of our members in a car can deliver the boxes and have a few words with each recipient. It is not hard work, nor does the project take up much time, and when the letters saying "Thank you" start arriving you know you have brought some happiness into the lives of that section of the community who may sometimes feel forgotten.

A Toc H job? We in Clitheroe think so.

### Making the Yanks feel at home

There is a U.S. Air Force base near to the Trimley women's Branch and not the least valuable of Trimley's activities during the past couple of years has been helping the Air Force wives to settle down and to enjoy England. Though small in number the Branch is not without influence locally. Two of their nine members were recently elected to the parish council.

### Edmonton give a birthday present

At their 18th old people's party, attended by 170 "Senior Citizens", Edmonton Branch presented Mrs. Phoebe Bridger with a small gift by way of celebrating a double birthday. Mrs. Bridger was 100 years old and the Branch was 40 years old. Entertainment was provided by a concert party from Mark 111, Hackney. Among the other activities to celebrate the Branch birthday were a rededication service at the Baptist church, a celebration dinner and a visit to the "Black and White Minstrel Show".

### SPECIAL SHOW FOR NORTHAMPTON DISTRICT

The Northampton District Team's April social evening took the form of a theatre outing. Over 100 members and friends attended a special performance of Agatha Christie's "Murder at the Vicarage" by the Co-operative Players. The special show was arranged by Toc H member Stan Clarke. Both Stan and his wife are active members of the Co-operative Players. "The social evening was to be on the Saturday," says Stan, "and we were playing to the public all that week. So I hit on the idea of putting on this special show. When we put on our next production, in November, we have decided to include a Saturday performance, which we have never had before."



The victors' smile. Heathfield Youth Club, represented by Graham Pope, Sally Crispin, Veronica Mitchell and Christopher Raby, were winners of the John Weston Toc H Cup awarded annually for a quiz competition between youth organisations in Sussex. The club are so pleased with their success that they have built a special shelf for the trophy.

Photo: Sussex Express.



# HIGH BROOMS PUT YOUTH FIRST

F. G. Keel

The Boys' Club was in the news again recently when one of its senior members, 18 year old Donald Punyer, won the Kent Association of Boys' Clubs Intermediate Table Tennis Championship. Not the only success for Donald this year. With team mates Robert Everest and Paul Rickwood he won the Division IV Championship for the Club in the Tunbridge Wells Table Tennis League. A more modest success for the Club was that this year they reached the semi-final of the competition for the Kent Youth Clubs Association Football Trophy, and two members of the team, Trevor Farmer and Christopher Brown, will be playing for the Kent Association of Boys' Clubs against the Middlesex A.B.C.

Success at Football is a tradition for the Club. The first High Brooms Toc H Boys' Club F.C. (the members of which are now too old to be termed boys) are, under the name of High Brooms Casuals F.C., one of the most successful Clubs in the Tonbridge Football League and winners of many local trophies.

The formation of a Boys' Club was one of the first jobs undertaken by Toc H when it came to High Brooms in the early thirties. A small Club was kept going for many years under difficult conditions and restarted after World War II. Lack of suitable premises stunted the growth of the Club. However, in 1956 the High Brooms Adult School came on the market and the Trustees were willing to sell it to Toc H for the bargain price of £1,000. The Branch obtained the assurance of the maximum grant of £500 from the Ministry of Education and set about, with the aid of other Branches in the Tunbridge Wells District, the formidable task of raising the balance.

In May 1957 the High Brooms Adult School became the property of Toc H Incorporated and was re-named the High Brooms Toc H Youth Centre. However, it was an oldish building with poor kitchen and toilet facilities. After much debating about ways and means, the Branch set about building more suitable amenities themselves and for good measure added above them a meeting room.

In the meantime, the Boys' Club has

gone from strength to strength and now caters for 50 members. Indoors the main activities are table tennis, billiards, darts and chess. Outdoors there is archery, football, cricket, camping, canoeing and angling.

It's not all men's work. The Treasurer of the Management Committee is Mrs. Joyce Cheesman, a member of the local Branch of the Women's Association, and invaluable help in running the Club's activities is given by Mrs. Marjorie Everest, a prospective member of the women's Branch.

Two other items of note might be mentioned. The neighbouring town of Tunbridge Wells is this year celebrating the sixtieth anniversary of the grant of the right to call itself "Royal". The Club entered a float in the carnival procession on May 31 depicting the Club's activities.

The running of the Club has not, however, diverted the Branch's attention from the elderly. A joint committee of Toc H and the Toc H Women's Association organises outings, parties and holidays for the older members of the community, concentrating on those who are too old or infirm to attend Clubs. Needless to say, the local Old Peoples' Club meets in the Youth Centre once a week.

100 entries for  
Battersea Sports

Philip Berry

Battersea Park, London, was once again the venue for the Toc H Sports on Saturday, May 10. With over 100 entries, from Marks, Branches and Volunteer groups, and spirits undampened by the early rain, there was keen competition. Weybridge, making their first appearance, won the Branch championship and Prideaux House, Mark 111, won the Mark championship. Vera Harley, General Secretary of the Women's Association, presented the cups and awards.

## THE BRANCH WITH A BLUE LAMP

If you're stopped in Crewe and invited to "come along with me to the station" it may simply mean that Toc H are having a recruitment drive. An old police station has been converted for use by Toc H and by the local Scouts and Cubs. "The Toc H room," writes our Correspondent, Norman Wood, "has been beautifully decorated by the members in modern psychedelic colours. If they can produce an image to match they will be well away."

## "Disband Toc H for Five Years"

Members from all over East Anglia met at Pleasance, Overstrand, for an Area weekend recently, where a proposition that "Toc H disbands for five years to find itself" promoted a very lively discussion. The motion was soundly defeated.

The Rev. John Hull, Regional staff, led the weekend with discussions on the part that the Movement can play as the working week becomes shorter and leisure pursuits become a predominant consideration in community life. "Toc H

should be encouraging and helping others to enjoy music, art and other creative activities," he said.

The Toc H debate proved to be a highlight of the weekend with strong views being expressed for and against the proposition. Successive opposition speakers, however, convinced their audience that Toc H was "still strong and active and was already beginning to feel the benefit of the younger members who were coming in."

### beautiful . . . . .!

The May edition of *Harper's Bazaar* asked celebrities to name the "most beautiful thing about Britain". Comedian Marty Feldman replied, "The Enoch Powell memorial."



# 200 ATTEND DEDICATION OF HAROLD BRAMLEY ROOM

**Colin Campbell**

From May 19 the dining room of Mark XI at Leicester has been known as the Harold Bramley Room. On that evening Mrs. Shelagh Bramley unveiled a plaque that recognises something of what Toc H in the East Midlands and, in particular, Mark XI and Anstey Branch, owe to her husband's enthusiasm and devotion, as an ordinary Branch member, as an Area

officer and, latterly, until his sudden and untimely death, as a member of the Regional staff team with a special concern for Mark XI.

The real tribute, however, lay in those who had come to support her in witness to what Harold had meant to them. More than 200 members, some from distant Branches, members of the Leicester Lunch Club and colleagues

from both Regional and headquarters staff of Toc H crowded the ground floor rooms and corridors. The proceedings were relayed to all and the Mark played host in a manner which would have delighted Harold's heart.

The plaque was almost superfluous; it was obvious that Harold Bramley was remembered in the only way he would have wished, in the continuation of all he had loved and worked for.

## Branch hut becomes Baptist church

Harbourne Baptists are building a new church which is expected to be ready for use at Easter, 1970. They had to vacate the old church by the end of May, and have made arrangements with Harbourne Branch to use their hut until the new church is ready. They will use the hut for Sunday worship, Women's Own meetings, and Girls' Brigade meetings. This is a continuation of a long standing association between the church and Harbourne Branch.

## SHOW BIZ AT STREATHAM BUILDERS' MEETING

The Streatham Branch of the Women's Association combined their annual Builders' meeting at the British Home for Incurables with a well produced youth variety show. Acts included local guides, attractively dressed in Austrian costumes, who sang songs from "The Sound of Music", a conjurer, comedy sketches and a piano duet performed by the two sons of Peter Sutton, men's Branch Secretary. One of the boys has just won a scholarship to the Royal Academy and most of the music played was composed by him.

After the show the performers, all under 16, talked with the patients.



The very latest design in invalid chairs was presented by the Llandudno Central Branch to the local blind club, which also has handicapped members. Mrs. M. Owen makes the presentation in the presence of the Chairman of the Council.

*Photo: A. J. Lennie*

## Tufty Club launched at Brightlingsea Vi Gatfield

Clacton Afternoon (W.A.) Branch have sown a seed at Brightlingsea by giving a talk to 80 mothers of young children about the Tufty Road Safety Club which they started some two years ago. It is hoped that the result of this will be a flourishing Tufty Club in Brightlingsea and that this in turn might lead to the formation of a Toc H women's Branch there. It is felt that this is a good basis for expansion as it puts young parents in touch with Toc H and means that the children grow up used to hearing about Toc H while at the same time learning about road safety.

## South African members visit Chippenham

The interest of Chippenham Branch in the situation in South Africa, expressed through their work for LEPRO and for the Etembeni project in Jubilee year, was brought to a climax by the recent visit to Chippenham of three South African members. The three, Alec Henderson, Les Baraclough

and Les Tucker, are members of Queenstown Branch in South Africa. They were entertained to dinner by Chippenham Branch. Queenstown, like Chippenham, lies in the centre of a farming community and it appeared that the activities of the two Branches were very similar.



# LEGACIES PAID IN ADVANCE

"I have been advised by my solicitors to make any bequests I intended to during my lifetime. I had in mind a sum of £300 for Toc H and I enclose my cheque." So reads a letter recently received at headquarters; and two more "paid in advance" legacies have since been received. George Liddle, the Hon. Treasurer, says that he would be very pleased indeed to receive others as the idea catches on.

Legacies have always been an important source of finance for the continuing work of Toc H and the Appeals department have recently prepared a folder for issue to solicitors in a position to put in a word for Toc H

when advising their clients on the drawing up of charitable bequests. The folder includes basic information on the aims and purposes of Toc H as well as the necessary legal details.

"Because of the cost of doing so," says Ken Rogers, Appeals Director, "we are not considering the distribution of the folder to all solicitors in the country—there are some 28,000—but we would like it to go to solicitors who are known to have a personal interest in Toc H activities. Branches and members are therefore asked to co-operate by sending any such names and addresses to me at headquarters."

## Biggleswade take over "Kingdom Hall"

Biggleswade Branches have moved to a permanent home after 30 years of meeting above a public house in the town. Their new HQ, completely redecorated by Branch members, they even laid new floor boards, was once used as a rating office and latterly as a meeting place for the Jehovah's Witnesses. If you look carefully you can still see Kingdom Hall written above the door. Once inside, however, there is no doubt about the new owners for the room is liberally sprinkled with relics depicting much of the 33 years of local Toc H achievement. Several items of furniture, including tables, chairs, wall heaters and a clock have been presented by members wishing to remember departed friends and loved ones.

HQ visitor, Huw Gibbs, reminded the guests of the challenge and warning contained in the rededication service and that new premises gave the Branch an opportunity to see that they would never "look inwardly at themselves and the Movement but always outwards", and that they "should be striving always to find younger leaders to replace themselves and eager to promote fresh ideas."

The joint rededication service and blessings were conducted by the Branch Padre.

## Penny Bookstalls in Hereford

Hereford Branch have begun a scheme to raise more money for Toc H funds. They have decided to go into the second-hand book business. Stalls will be set up at strategic points in the city and shoppers will be offered a wide selection of books at a few pence each. Branch secretary W. Morris told us, "To run bookstalls you need books. Anybody with books to spare can send them to me at Barrs Court Road, Hereford."

## Don't shoot the postman

Mrs. Alice Mary Wilson was elected to membership on May 8. Nothing unusual about that—except that her application form was dated October 16, 1939. The fact that the form took very nearly 30 years to reach headquarters is not, however, the fault of the G.P.O. "A few weeks after her application," writes Mrs. Cecile Anderton, Secretary of Milford-on-Sea Branch, "Mrs. Wilson left Milford as her husband was sent abroad. They only returned to live in the district six months ago." Incidentally one of her original sponsors was Tubby's sister, Mrs. Lloyd.

### AXE A SILLY QUESTION

Skip Farrant, Hendon Toc H, was engaged in his regular job of preparing firewood at St. John's Church when the new vicar approached. "Who are you and what are you doing?" Surprised, and a little confused, Skip stammered, "I'm Skip Farrant and I'm chopping up old people for firewood!"

No gents' hairdresser in Chinnor

## Reprinted from the Oxford & Thames Valley Area Newsletter

The biggest moan in Chinnor, Oxfordshire, discovered by a Toc H survey on facilities was a lack of transport. But following behind this, people said that Chinnor lacked recreational facilities, a community centre, proper integration of new estates with the old town, adequate youth club facilities—and a gents' hairdresser.

The survey was reported on and discussed at a public meeting on a Thursday evening in March. Toc H members from Beaconsfield, Bourne End, Wendover, Chinnor and Oxford worked at the survey and 100 people were interviewed.

A general impression gained was that there had been a breakdown in communication in the village as many people said they wanted a certain type of activity when there was just such a thing already. This led Toc H to volunteer to get a co-ordinating service off the ground.

Bill Williams, the Area Chairman, outlined the part that Toc H could and would play in the life of the village. He said that Toc H could organise voluntary transport to take visitors to relatives and friends in hospitals, set up an advisory bureau, a welcoming service to people coming into the village and give information on the village activities. All these schemes needed manpower that Toc H had not got, and he asked for anyone interested to come forward and help.

## Peacock Idea!

Do you want a colourful way to raise money? Streatham women's Branch have just organised a peacock stall on which everything has to be either blue or green. With a little imagination this novel idea could become a knockout during the coming months. Streatham raised £15 for the Family Purse.





Tony Norman has provided some photographs of a project in London where an adventure playground was constructed. Do you notice that the girls are doing all the hard work AGAIN. Last month the girls were hard at it on Lake Windermere. Come to think of it Tony took those photographs too. Is that because the camera is lighter than a spade? What's your excuse Tony?

## picture point



Tunbridge Wells Youth Action group, with the Kent College Singers, entertained sixty old people at the college, near Pembury. Their programme was so good that they were kept for over an hour to lead community singing. For a change Toc H did nothing, apart from laying on transport.

*Photo: Tunbridge Wells Advertiser.*





# Welsh Place Names

JOHN JONES

(1)

This oily slick, the pithead drain,  
Once sported otters and salmon

running.

The name is proof. A crystal water  
For the Lord's Return when saints were  
shunning

The world for prayer. This was before  
Wales was coal and coal was war.

(2)

Who licensed the sandy caravan site  
Where lenten cravats of blackthorn ride  
A Via Maritana? And where  
The Calvary the trailers hide?

These dunes are graves. Braving the

dross

A tough sea-holly and the eroded

Cross.

(3)

Who then and why was he so named  
The diminutive Goidel? What became  
Of the others venturing a saga for

Siabod's

Favour? What spared their veins the

fame?

Sing in the high country the lift

Of the lovely phrasing. Time's stubborn  
gift.

(4)

Brute anglicising may be undone  
Gently in a Dewchurch, Catterick or

Dover.

The game's an archeology

In sound. A breath for trowel to uncover

The Celtic key mutating the scale

In Malvern, London, Vienna and Yale.

Names ceremonial and Galilean.

A roll-call and racial processional.

Fireside ancestral histories.

A feeling-tone, a mystical

Atlas and gazetteer. A dream

Of unity; a bond on every stream.

(1) *Ogmore = ogwey = the salmon river.*

(2) *A composite verse of reference to places like Rhuddlan (red shore) in N. Wales, the dunes below Harlech, buried towns and early settlements at Merthyr Mowr and Kenfig in South Wales.*

(3) *Dolwyddelan, under Moel Siabod in the Lledr Valley literally means The Meadow of the little Irishman or Goidel.*

(4) *Much and Little Dewchurch are near Hereford. They are original centres of the cult of Dewi Sant (St. David). Catterick originally was Cattraeth, the first of battlegrounds in the earliest extant Welsh poetry. Dover is simply Dwefe, the Welsh for water. Malvern = Moel Fryn = a bare hill top. London comes from a Celtic name Londinos. Vienna is Celtic in origin. Yale = Ial = wilderness. Elihu Yale of Wrexham founded Yale University.*

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## obituary

**We regret to announce the death of the following members:**

**In January:** William Brown (Beckley, Rye), Victor A. Sanders (Southchurch). **In March:** Michael H. Bruton (Vancouver, B.C.), Maud L. Debarr (Tottenham), Avise Deeley (Tottenham), John W. R. Dukes (Saltburn-by-the-Sea). **In April:** the Rev. Arthur H. Jones (Sittingbourne), John Langston (RHHI). **In May:** the Rev. Basil H. L. Dance (Vancouver, B.C.), Doris Garton (Staunton Harold), Betty Gray (Glen Parva), Eric P. Lawrence (Lancing), Jane B. Robinson (Ealing), George E. Rundle (Calstock).

**We give thanks for their lives.**



## SMALL ADVERTISEMENTS

Small advertisements must be received (with remittance) by the first day of the month preceding publication. The charge is 6d. a word (minimum 6s.). Arthur Scholey, DPS Publicity Services Ltd, 69 Fleet Street, E.C.4 or to "Point Three" Magazine, Toc H, 41 Trinity Square, London E.C.3. (01-709 0472)

**WARDEN MANOR.** Still a few summer vacancies at Warden Manor, the holiday Guest House amidst unspoilt country, near sea, on north Kent coast. Viz: July 26 to August 2: twin-bedded room, and room for 4 ladies (2 of whom can book for fortnight). From August 16 for 2 weeks: 2 twin-bedded rooms and a few singles in 4- or 5-bedded rooms. But please write for other dates in view of possible cancellations. £7.15s. and £8.15s., full board. Weekly coach outings (optional). Sea bathing. Tennis and table tennis. Own clock golf (almost an acre). Usually other games and evening entertainments. Quiet lawns for those who wish. Write: Warden Manor, Eastchurch, Kent (Eastchurch 238).

**YPRES.** Tea Room and Patisserie, 9 Grande Place. Light meals; teas. English spoken.—**VANDAELE** (Toc H Builder).

**ADVERTISING PENCILS,** superb Ball-Pens, Combs, Brushes, etc., gold-stamped Branch name, raise funds quickly, easily. Details—Northern Novelties, Bradford 2.



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**LET ME WRITE** your speech, publicity leaflet, book, booklet. **ANDREW BAINBRIDGE**, 4 Hereford House, Queen's Drive, London, W.3. (01-499-3677).

**IDEAL FOR BEACH OR GARDEN . . .** Windbreaks . . . enjoy the sun, keep out the cold wind. Strongly made; with or without poles. Send for leaflet today. Ocelot car seat covers, 21s. each. Special discount for Branch orders. Holmefast Ltd., 16 Dolphin Street, Manchester 12.

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## IN THE PUBLIC EYE

A new Display Kit is now available from Toc H Publications Department, 15 Trinity Square, London, E.C.3.

Specially prepared to meet a growing demand from Toc H Branches, churches, schools and other organisers of community exhibitions, the kit comprises a set of ten cards, some in colour, measuring 15" x 12".

The cards combine a series of statements with actual photographs of Toc H activities. Used in conjunction with local material they should help to present an overall picture of the Movement.

*Price 30/- per set*

## ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL

Monday, October 6, 1969, at 8 p.m.

A concert presented by TOC H in conjunction with the  
ENGLISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA & MUSIC SOCIETY.

*English Chamber Orchestra*

*Daniel Barenboim*

*Pinchas Zukerman*

**BARTOK** Music for strings, percussion and celeste.

**MOZART** Violin concerto No. 1 in B flat. K.207.

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Seat prices: 30/-, 21 /-, 15 /-, 10 /-.

Toc H members applying for tickets by August 11 may  
obtain them at the concessionary rates of

27/6, 18/6, 13/6, 8/6.

Applications up to that date to PUBLIC RELATIONS  
SECRETARY, Toc H, 41 Trinity Square, London, E.C.3.